the basic syntax
Effect.EffectName('dom_id')

with options
Effect.EffectName('dom_id', {option:value, option:value})

highlight syntax
new Effect.Highlight('dom_id', {startcolor:'hex', endcolor:'hex'})

default options
Default options are available for all fx.
Some fx have custom options (not shown except for Highlight)

duration: seconds, in decimals
how long the effect will last

delay: seconds, in decimals
delay before starting effect

from: 0.0 to 1.0  to: 0.0 to 1.0
stages of the effect, 0 being no effect;
a Fade set to to:.5 would fade half-way

transition: transition method
controls ease in & out, can be used for special fx

queue: 'parallel' || 'front' || 'end'
whether the effects run simultaneously or in order

toggling

toggle() will show an item that’s hidden, or hide an item that’s shown—using the in or out effect, respectively, from one of the in & out effects families shown to the left.

the basic idea:
Effect.toggle('dom_id', 'fx_family')
toggle accepts these fx families:
appear
blind slide

more on scriptaculous: http://script.aculo.us/
cheatsheet © amy hoy (www.slash7.com)